PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information *cannot* perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## An Act To Provide County Commissioners with an Enforcement Mechanism with Regard to Parking Ordinances

## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

- **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §121, sub-§4,** as amended by PL 1991, c. 733, §10, is further amended to read:
- **4. Parking areas.** The county commissioners may lay out parking areas on county lands near county buildings and may enact ordinances for the reasonable use of those areas and enforce them by suitable penalties. Any violation of these ordinances is a civil violation.

The county commissioners may authorize a sheriff's deputy, certified by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy under Title 25, section 2803-A, subsection 8, to represent the county in District Court in the prosecution of alleged violations of unpaid penalties pursuant to an ordinance enacted under this subsection. The county commissioners may delegate to the county's sheriff their power under this subsection to authorize sheriff's deputies to represent the county.

County public parking areas are subject to any applicable requirements of the Maine Human Rights Act, Title 5, chapter 337, subchapter  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## **SUMMARY**

This bill provides the same enforcement authority for sheriff's deputies as presently exists for municipal law enforcement officers under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 2671, subsection 3, thereby providing the county commissioners with an enforcement mechanism with regard to the parking ordinances they are allowed to enact under Title 30-A, section 121.